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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: GIROD  
Serial No.: 09/114,668  
Filed: July 13, 1998  
Title: VIDEO-ASSISTED AUDIO SIGNAL PROCESSING SYSTEM  
AND METHOD

Examiner: Lao, L.  
Group Art Unit: 2643  
Docket No.: 8X8S.203PA

**RECEIVED**

JUN 06 2002

Technology Center 2600

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this communication is being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2002.

By: 

Robert J. Crawford

**OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the non-final Office Action dated February 20, 2002, please consider the following amendments and remarks:

**In The Claims**

Please cancel claims 5, 17 and 18, and replace the indicated claims as follows (attached to this Response find marked-up revision to the claims):

1. (Amended) A circuit arrangement for controlling audio signal transmissions for a communications system that includes a microphone and a video camera, comprising:

A1 a video processor configured and arranged to receive a video signal from the video camera, detect movement of an object in the video signal, provide a motion-indicating signal indicating movement relative to the object; and

an audio processor coupled to the video processor and configured and arranged to modify and mute the audio signal to be transmitted responsive to the motion-indicating signal.

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